Increase in Registered Companies

†3039. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) wheher it is a fact that the number of registered companies have increased constantly during the last three years;

(b) if so, the total number of companies registered in the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002; and

(c) the names of ten States where maximum number of companies got registered during the said years and annual turnover by these registered companies in each State?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The number of companies limited by shares, registered during the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 was 31289, 27187 and 20927 (provisional) respectively.

(c) The ten States having the highest number of companies registered during the said three years are Maharashtra, Delhi, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, West Bengal, Gujarat, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan. The information in respect of turnover of all the registered companies is not maintained.

International Criminal Court

3040. DR. KARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an International Criminal Court (ICC) is finally taking shape half a century after the UN called for its creation;

(b) if so, whether India has ratified the treaty;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if not, the steps taken in that direction; and

(d) the precise jurisdiction of the contemplated Court and its constitution?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) The negotiations for the establishment of a permanent International Criminal Court had been completed in 1998. With the necessary number of ratifications (16) of the Statutes of the ICC now complete, it would appear that the Court will come into existence in the next year.

(b) and (c) India had not signed the Statutes of the Court because of certain reservations on principles.

(d) The Court is expected to have jurisdiction over crimes such as crimes against humanity, genocide and war crimes.

Advisory Committee for Reviewing the Companies Act, 1956

3041. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Companies Act, 1956 with over 560 sections has become archaic and redundant in the present day context;

(b) whether the Department of Company Affairs has set-up an Advisory Committee for reviewing the Act to make it user-friendly and practical; and

(c) if so, the whether the Committee has submitted its report and if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) The various provisions contained in the Companies Act, 1956 monitor, regulate and control the affairs of the companies. Whenever the need arises, these provisions are amended keeping in view the purpose of the Act.

(b) and (c) An Advisory Committee has been constituted for